(d) the details of the relief given to the poverty-affected section as a result of natural calamities reported from the States ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) and (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Sale of poverty-stricken Bhil women in Rajasthan

3761. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the new-item captioned 'Distress sale of poverty-stricken Bhil women, which appeared in the Hindustan Times, dated 29th June, 2001 ;

(b) if so, whether her Ministry has ascertained factual position regarding sale of Bhil women in Bhil-inhabited areas of Rajasthan, prarticularly in Udaipur Division;

(c) if so, the details thereof ;

(d) whether Government have called for or received factual details about state of affairs in poverty-stricken and drought-prone areas of Rajasthan from Rajasthan Government;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the action taken by her Ministry to alleviate condition of Bhil-inhabited areas of Rajasthan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir.

(c)According to the State Government the news is untrue and baseless.

(d) to (f) A number of schemes are being run for the upliftment of economic and educational conditions of tribal Bhils of Udaipur division, such as

distribution of improved agriculture implements and plant protection equipments, demonstration of new crops, deepening of wells, construction of community lift irrigation schemes/Anicuts/Watersheds electrification of tribal habitations, running of Ashram hostels, training for employment. A residential school is being set up at Kotda.

Special funds for imparting education to handicapped children in Himachal Pradesh

3762. SHRI ANIL SHARMA : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have allocated special funds to Himachal Pradesh for imparting education to the handicapped children ;

(b) whether her Ministry has forwarded or propose to forward any proposal to the Ministry of Human Resource Development for this purpose so as to implement this scheme with the coordination of both the Ministries; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) to (c) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Integrated Education for Disabled Children (IEDC) an amount of Rs. 96,63,500/- was released by the Ministry of Human Resource Development to the Government of Himachal Pradesh during the year 1999-2000. In addition, H.P. State Council for Child Welfare, Shimla is running schools for disabled children with the help of the grant-in-aid from the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.

Release of share capital contribution to Karnataka SC and ST Finance and Development Corporation

3763. SHRI K. C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :